## MOHAVE COUNTY BOARD of SUPERVISORS

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## Jean Bishop Mohave County Supervisor District 4

June 14, 2021

President Joe Biden The White House 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW Washington DC

Dear President Biden:

As an elected official, I am writing to express my support of Senator Sinema's SB S. 2012 and for Congressman Stanton's and Congressman Gosar's bipartisan bills to secure justice for Downwinders exposed to government radiation testing in southern Mohave County, Arizona. This action would expand the eligibility boundaries to ensure justice for all Downwinders exposed to radiation. I am respectfully requesting you support my efforts in the passing of this legislation.

On January 27, 1951, the first years of nuclear weapons testing was conducted at a site known as the Nevada proving Grounds located 65 miles northwest of Las Vegas. It was in the early 1950's when my family lived downwind from the government nuclear test sites and later moved to Mohave County. Several of my family members have suffered from cancer as a direct result of these tests and I know many Mohave County residents who also worked and lived downwind from nuclear testing sites that were adversely affected by the radiation exposure.

With the implementation and subsequent amendments to the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act (RECA), many parts of Mohave County were overlooked in the determination of covered areas when counties further east and southeast were deemed eligible. Subsequent findings of Arizona's Radiation Regulatory Agency concluded that the RADS per individual to the thyroid in Mohave County were in some cases three times higher than those found in other Arizona counties that were covered areas.

As an elected official in Mohave County, I understand the need for communities to protect their citizens. I support this legislation to expand the eligibility boundaries, bringing justice to the effected residents of Mohave County.

Thank you for your time and consideration on this important matter.

Sincerely,

Jean Bishop

Mohave County Board of Supervisor District 4

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